

0437882404

MAGI # 0437882404

THE HISTORIC PRESERVATION CERTIFICATION
APPLICATION -- PART 1

(Pursuant to the Tax Reform Act of 1976)

Applicant certifies that the information in this historic preservation certification application is true information. No information may be made unless a completed application form has been filed (Part 1 & Part 2). If only one document is used to consolidate the application form, blank space is needed to complete Part 1 on the reverse side of a separate sheet of paper clearly indicating the owner's name and mailing address. Part 1 of this application may be completed and sent to the appropriate State Historic Preservation Officer at any time during the year, and may be sent separately or with Part 2.

PART 1 EVALUATION OF SIGNIFICANCE

1. NAME OF PROPERTY:

Address of property Street: 814 Park Avenue

City: Baltimore County

State: Maryland Zip Code: 21202

Name of historic district in which property is located: Baltimore City Historic District, 1964

2. DESCRIPTION OF PHYSICAL APPEARANCE:

(See instructions for map and photographic requirements - see reverse side if necessary.)

SEE ATTACHED SHEETS

3. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

(See reverse side if necessary.)

SEE ATTACHED SHEETS

Date of construction (if known): c. 1845 Original site Moved Date of alterations (if known): c. 1870, mid 20th cent.

4. NAME AND MAILING ADDRESS OF OWNER:

Name: Sommers and Sommers, c/o Milton Sommers

Street: 814 Park Avenue

City: Baltimore

State: Maryland Zip Code: 21202

Telephone Number (longing day) Area Code: (301) 728-1400

I hereby attest that the information I have provided is, to the best of my knowledge, correct, and that I am owner of the property described above.

Signature: Prepared by: Barbara Hoff, Dalsimer, Catzen and Associates, Inc. Date: _____
14 Light Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21202

For office use only:

The structure described above is included within the boundaries of the National Register historic district and contributes does not contribute to the character of the district.

The structure appears does not appear to meet National Register Criteria for Evaluation (36 CFR 60.6) and will likely will not be nominated to the National Register in accord with the Department of the Interior procedures (36 CFR 60).

The structure is located in a district which appears does not appear to meet National Register Criteria for Evaluation (36 CFR 60.6) will likely will not be nominated to the National Register in accord with Department of the Interior procedures (36 CFR 60), and appears does not appear to contribute to the character of said district.

Signature:  Date: 3-11-82
State Historic Preservation Officer

This property has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the Department of the Interior (36 CFR 67) and is subject to depreciation under section 167 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954.

I hereby certify a historic structure.

I does not contribute to the character of the historic district and does not merit certification as a historic structure. Reasons given on the attached sheet.

Signature: _____ Date: _____
Keeper of the National Register

Address of Property: 814 Park Avenue, Baltimore, Maryland 21202

Name of Firm or Person: Barbara Hoff, Dalsemer, Catzen and Associates, Inc.

Telephone: (301) 738-1710

14 Light Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21202

Telephone: (301) 837-3691

DESCRIPTION OF PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

814 Park Avenue exemplifies the elaborate, heavily detailed rowhouses found in the Mount Vernon Historic District. Buildings such as it blend with one another to create the significant architectural environment of the district. This building is an Italianate three and a half story rowhouse attached home with a running bond brick facade as well as a raised basement and a Mansard roof.

The basement is marble with two windows in the basement level. The windows are now boarded up. A belt course above them terminates the marble facing in the northern bay, marble steps with simple iron railings lead up to the main door which consists of two wood doors each with a beveled glass light and a single light transom above. The door has a plain marble surround and cornice. The first floor windows beside it have one over one wood sashes with marble sills. Above the windows there is a marble fascia and cornice which extends over the door.

The second floor comprises three tall wood one over one double hung sash windows with decorative cast iron window boxes. Above the windows are flat arches, and below are marble sills. The third floor windows are shorter than those of the second; they have one over one double hung wood sashes. The sills are marble and the lintels are flat arches. All of the sashes have one over one aluminum storm windows. The wood cornice above them is quite delicate with large brackets, moldings and beading work. The Mansard roof (which is an addition to the structure) has slate shingles which are both horizontal and vertical. It features a central dormer window which has arched two over two wood sash windows with beaded heads. The roof itself projects in the center and is recessed on the ends. The coping along the ridges is pronounced with much decoration.

The north facade of the building is attached to another structure while the south wall is of an on-laid brick with wood double hung windows and an iron fire escape. Window detail is unobservable. There are stairs here down to the basement. The south side is not visible.

The west facade of the building consists of common bond brick, painted at the basement and first floor level, and stuccoed above. There is a wood door in the northern bay of the basement with an aluminum storm door, closed transom above, and a flat arch above that. There are windows throughout the rest of the bays and floors. These windows are two over two wood double hung with stone subsills and flat arches on the basement, second, and third floors. All of the windows have aluminum one over one storm windows. The first floor also has a wood arch with an iron railing. These windows are wood two over four double hung. In the central bay, there is a wood door with a glazed panel and a two light transom above.

Behind the structure there is a three bay long, three bay wide, one story high common bond brick carriage house with a shed roof. The east facade consists of two windows on either side of a central door. The boarded windows have iron grills, redwood sills, and double decorative brick sash arches. The door has a front step up, in wood soffits, a three light transom, and a double door set back under a central arch. The door itself is wood temple and glazed with a

Address of Property: 814 Park Avenue, Hyattsville, Maryland, 20702

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DESCRIPTION OF PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

frame over it. The north wall contains two boarded up square windows with double course leaded arches and rough brick subsills. The south wall is attached to another structure. The painted west wall consists of large double tongue and groove wood doors with a wood frame over them. The lintel is an "I" beam with rosettes in it. The brick walls of this structure rise above the roof to form a parapet with terra cotta coping.

The interior still retains its original floor plan of rooms organized in a line parallel to a circulation axis, and the rooms have been converted into apartments with a variety of surface finishes applied during the recent years. The vestibule of 814 contains its original parquetry floor and wood door with molded panels. The hall has an open string bracketed stair with a folded hand post & turned balusters. The ceiling retains an ornate ceiling medallion and a large crown molding.

Some apartments within are equally ornate with decorated Victorian style mantels, large plaster ceiling medallions, and large crown moldings. Openings have architrave surrounds and there are transoms over wood paneled doors. Some original wood floors exist too.

The conversion of this structure into an apartment house is typical of the area which now consists mainly of professional offices and apartments. In general, the building still retains its original character in its materials, scale, plan, proportion, and details. As a result, the building augments the special environment of the Mount Vernon Historic District.

Address of Property: 814 Park Avenue, Baltimore, Maryland 21202

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Address of Owner: Rogers and Gowers, 624 Park Avenue
Baltimore, Maryland 21202

Telephone:(301) 734-1000

Prepared by: Barbara Hoff, Dalsemer, Catzen and Associates, Inc.

14 Light Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21202

Telephone:(301) 837-0111

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The significance of 814 Park Avenue lies in its architectural contribution to the development of the Mount Vernon Historic District.

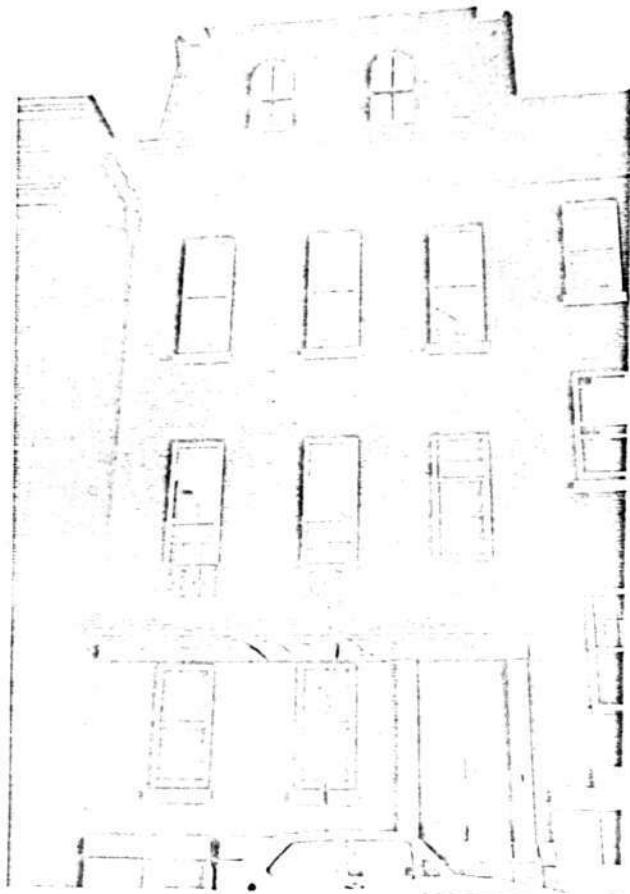
The Mount Vernon Historic District is both a Baltimore City District and, in part, a National Register Historic Landmark District. Mount Vernon was the first Historic District in Baltimore City, designated in 1964 and expanded five times to the current boundaries, which have been certified by the Department of the Interior for purposes of the Historic Preservation Tax Incentives. The ordinance creating the Mount Vernon Historic District also established the Baltimore City Commission for Historic and Architectural Preservation to oversee all changes within the District and to recommend other areas and buildings in the City for historic designation. The Historic District and the Commission were outgrowths of the Mount Vernon Urban Renewal Plan, one of the City's earliest efforts to incorporate preservation and renovation of existing structures with new development. The Mount Vernon Historic District now encompasses two Urban Renewal Areas: Mount Vernon and Midtown-Belvedere.

The Mount Vernon Historic District grew from the early 19th century through the early 20th century and retains structures--residential, commercial, and religious--from that time. The area was Baltimore's most fashionable neighborhood and includes some of the finest architecture in the city, built for wealthy residents, congregations, and institutions, and designed by architects of local and national renown. The greater portion of the district was once the estate of John Eager Howard, revolutionary war patriot and statesman. His mansion, Belvidere, whose site is now the 1900 block of North Calvert Street, the centerpiece of the district is the "Washington Monument and Mount Vernon Place." The monument is the first formal monument erected to commemorate George Washington and is one of the finest examples of monumental architecture in the country. It was erected from 1815 to 1829 and designed by Robert Mills, one of the first American born and trained architects in the country. The development of the squares known as Mount Vernon Place and Washington Place, dates from the 1830's, when the land was subdivided by Howard's heirs, who then built some of the first houses. Prior to the construction of the monument and the development of the squares, brick working class houses were built on Tysen Street, Read Street and North Howard Street, the earliest dating from 1810. These buildings still exist, some are residences and others have been converted to antique shops. The houses on Hamilton Street date from 1820 and were designed by Robert Cary Long Sr., the architect of the Peale Museum and Davidge Hall.

The area which is now the Historic District continued to develop. Baltimore's prominent and wealthy residents moved north to the rural area because the land around the harbor was rapidly becoming industrialized and because the City was filled with immigrants, who flocked to Baltimore to work in the newly established industries. Construction continued to take place in the 1850's and 1860's after the Howard estate had been sold. By the early 20th century, Mount Royal Avenue and parts of Howard Street had been developed, completing the construction in the district.

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814 Park Avenue
Block 0509, Lot 015
Baltimore City
Baltimore East Quad.

